

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 14, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance a Strategic Space Symposium 2006,
October 10-12, 2006

The Space Foundation and Space News in support of U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) will hold its annual symposium October 10-12, 2006 in Omaha, Nebraska. The purpose of this symposium is to present the best practices for the USSTRATCOM. The symposium is geared to members of USSTRATCOM in both the military and the government. I have determined it to be in the best interests of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend to obtain information and engage in discussions that will assist them in their performance of official duties.

The conference will be widely attended by individuals throughout the government and military concerned with strategic space. Attendance at this symposium will provide NASA invitees the opportunity to learn about STAATCOM programs from key Department of Defense, industry, and academic leaders. A gift of free attendance includes meals and other refreshments provided to all attendees as an integral part of the symposium. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). I therefore conclude that NASA interest in its employees attending this symposium outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees may attend the event without charge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Andrew Falcon".

R. Andrew Falcon